



WEEKLY REPORT

ARIZONA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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For the week ending Friday, Aug. 6, 2004

Welcome to the ASRS Weekly Report. This report provides a briefing of news and notices important to member employers and your employees. Please direct comments or email address updates to weeklyreport@asrs.state.az.us or phone (602) 308-5107.

***** Please distribute or make this report available to your employees. *****

ASRS News

“Weekly Report” moves to biweekly!

The ASRS Weekly Report moves to biweekly until the start of the next Legislative session, when we’ll again track retirement related-legislation for you. Until then, look for our report filled with news and information important to our members every other week.

Updated Member Handbook now on-line

The ASRS Member Handbook, filled with information important to active, inactive and retired members, has been updated and is now on-line. You can find it on the home-page of the ASRS website, www.asrs.state.az.us. At this time, the ASRS has not ordered a printing of hard copies of the handbook. We are in the process of reviewing our printed materials and will be creating a new packet that will be available for employers to provide to new employees. Details will be sent to employer representatives soon.

Also, watch on-line for our newly updated Getting Ready to Retire handbook, which should be available shortly.

Board & Committee Meetings

- **ASRS Board of Trustees** – Friday, August 20, 8:30 a.m., ASRS Phoenix office, 3300 N. Central Ave., 10th floor Board Room.
- **Operations Review Committee** – Thursday, August 26, 10:30 p.m., ASRS Phoenix office, 3300 N. Central Ave., 14th floor conference room.
- **External Affairs Review Committee** – Wednesday, Sept. 1, 10 a.m., ASRS Phoenix office, 3300 N. Central Ave., 14th floor conference room.
- **Investment Review Committee** – Tuesday, Sept. 7, 5:30 p.m., ASRS Phoenix office, 3300 N. Central Ave., 14th floor conference room.

Note: All Board & Committee meetings are open to the public and your attendance is encouraged. Schedules, agendas and minutes of our meetings are posted on our website and are available at our Phoenix and Tucson offices.

ASRS Rules process

The ASRS is in the process of drafting agency rules related to Service Purchase and is seeking public comment. The draft rules can be found on our website at www.asrs.state.az.us. Click on the Legislation & Rules category listed under main categories on our homepage, and scroll down to the rules section.

Two informational meetings for public comment on these draft rules have been scheduled. ASRS members and member employer representatives are invited to attend, where you'll have an opportunity to provide comments and ask questions. They are scheduled for:

- > Monday, August 23, 1:30 p.m. – ASRS Phoenix office, 3300 N. Central Ave., 10th floor Board Room.
- > Tuesday, August 24, 10 a.m. – ASRS Tucson office, 7660 E. Broadway Blvd., room 108.

The meetings are not part of the formal rulemaking process, but do offer an opportunity for the ASRS to receive input from those who will be affected by the rules. Additional meetings will be held once the Proposed Rules are filed with the Secretary of State. For comments or questions, contact ASRS rules coordinator Nancy Johnson at nancyj@asrs.state.az.us or phone (602) 308-5172.

Employer Conferences

The Arizona State Retirement System continues with its annual Employer Conferences with sessions scheduled throughout the state. The meetings are for representatives from employer benefits, human resource and payroll departments and individuals who provide administrative support.

All meetings will be from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will cover such topics as implications of new legislation, including changes to the Service Purchase and Employer Retirement Incentive programs; contribution accounting; security and the internet and automation of ACH payments; military call up; termination pay; Long Term Disability program changes; eligibility requirements; the ASRS retiree health insurance program, including new carrier information; updated forms, and new employer staff training workshop information.

Below is a list of meeting dates and locations. Due to limited space, reservations are required. Please RSVP at least three weeks prior to the meeting date. Include in your RSVP email the employer name, attendee names and titles, phone numbers, date and location. Please send your RSVP to: michellef@asrs.state.az.us, or call (602) 308-5107 for more information.

2004 ASRS Employer Conference Schedule

Phoenix – September 9, September 23 (newly added!) - ASRS Office, 3300 N. Central Ave., 10th floor.

Flagstaff – August 11 - Coconino County Board of Supervisors building, 219 E. Cherry Road.

Holbrook – August 12 - Northland Pioneer College Painted Desert Campus, 993 E. Hermosa Drive, Rm. LC142.

Show Low – August 13 - Northland Pioneer College, White Mountain Campus Symposium Room, 1001 W. Deuce of Clubs.

Tucson – September 22 (newly added!) - ASRS Office, 7660 E. Broadway Blvd. Suite 101.

Globe – August 30 - Gila County Board of Supervisors Room, 1400 E. Ash St.

Sierra Vista – August 31- Police Dept, 911 N Coronado Drive.

Safford – September 1 - Graham County Board of Supervisors Room, 921 Thatcher Blvd.

Prescott/Chino Valley – September 14 - Yavapai College, Performance Hall Green Room, 1100 E. Sheldon.

Kingman – September 15 - Kingman School District Conference Room, 3033 MacDonald Ave.

Yuma – September 16 - City of Yuma Conference Room 190, One City Plaza.